

New York Tribune.

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The Dishonest Labor Union Clause.

The White House defends the labor organization clause of the Clayton anti-trust bill on the ground that it does not sanction illegal acts on the part of labor unions, but only their bare existence. The original section stood as follows:

That nothing contained in the anti-trust laws shall be construed to forbid the existence and operation of fraternal labor, consumer, agricultural or horticultural organizations, orders or associations operating under the lodge system, instituted for the purpose of mutual help and not having capital stock or conducted for profit or to forbid or restrain individual members of such orders or associations from carrying out the legitimate objects of such associations.

This was not acceptable to the labor unions. What force do these words add which make the language now agreed upon acceptable to Mr. Gompers:

Nor shall such organizations, orders or associations or the members thereof be held or construed to be combinations or conspiracies in restraint of trade under the anti-trust law.

It is plain that the addition either does not change the force of the provision as it first stood or that it amounts to a flat prohibition that the labor unions and similar organizations should ever be enjoined as in restraint of trade, no matter what they do.

The real issue is what the labor unions are to be permitted to do. No fair-minded person would wish to have the organization of labor lie under the law. It is necessary that labor should have the right to organize. But we have never believed that the Sherman law denied that right. The courts never have so construed it. They have held that it forbade certain acts of labor organizations which unduly interfered with interstate trade, but never that it forbade the formation of the organizations themselves.

The labor leaders have sought to get the acts now under the ban of the law legalized, under the pretence of merely legalizing organization itself. The question is whether they are about to succeed in this through the agreement reached with the Democratic administration. Frankly, we do not know whether they are or are not. No one can tell until the courts have passed upon the jumble of vague words into which the concession is cast. The language used is meant to cheat either the public or the labor unions. If it was necessary that the right to organize should be expressly guaranteed by law it could have been guaranteed in unmistakable language. But the last thing which either side cared to use was unmistakable language.

The labor leaders wanted to be able to tell their followers that they had at last won a license to do whatever they chose. The administration wanted to be able to tell the public that it had granted nothing more to organized labor than the harmless and necessary right to existence, while it wanted the labor voters to believe that a great deal more had been granted. Both sides to the contract wished to deceive. And it is impossible to acquit the President of taking part in the dishonesty.

The Courts on the Bird Law.

Through a decision of Judge Triebner in the United States District Court at Jonesboro, Ark., that the migratory bird law is unconstitutional, a peculiar situation as to its enforcement exists. This decision is binding only in the district where it was rendered. Another federal judge, Judge Elliott, in the district court at Sioux Falls, S. D., last month held that the law was constitutional. Thus in that district, and all the districts in which it has not been challenged, the law will be enforced, but will not be enforceable in the Arkansas district.

Manifestly it is extremely desirable that the issue be taken before the Supreme Court as speedily as possible. While the constitutionality of the act is questioned, as it is in this state by Attorney General Carmody, and elsewhere by state authorities and mean-spirited sportsmen, who fear it will interfere with their local shooting, it will be impossible to afford the desired protection to the game birds, songsters and insect eaters within the law's scope. If the law is not constitutional and not enforceable the sooner that is learned the better for the birds and the public, for some other measure will take its place.

There Should Be No Unofficial Convention.

It is to be hoped that the Republican conference to be held to-morrow, and the Republican State Committee, which is to meet thereafter, will decide against the holding of an unofficial state convention to select candidates for the state ticket this fall. Such a course would be either foolish or fatal. If entered into on the theory that no man not selected in that fashion should go into the primaries, where the nominations under the law must be made, the convention would be a farce or a failure. It could not bind candidates who assuredly would go into the primaries. All it could do would be to show to the voters that the men in charge of the Republican organization desired to get around the law as much as might be. That would not be a hopeful or desirable start for a state campaign.

A great many Republican leaders believe no more in the direct primary now than they did when they fought Governor Hughes's efforts to have such a law enacted. The general public is aware that the law now existing is by no means such a law for their protection as Governor Hughes's measure. That combination of circumstances does not mean that it would be a good thing either for the party or the public to have this law, such as it is, flouted or disregarded in spirit. The straightforward, sensible thing to do is to obey it. If it prove tremendously faulty, it can be better improved after trial. In any case the scheme of operations it contemplates is distinct enough. It includes no irresponsible, unofficial convention to pick favorite candidates and start them out on their primary career stamped with the organization's approval. Its purpose is to have all candidates get their names before the voters in the same way, without favoritism and advantage.

The unofficial convention to choose candidates is a scheme to scuttle the direct primary. It should have no support from loyal Republicans.

A Rest in Big Ship Building?

The troubles of the Vaterland in entering and leaving this port lend added interest to the reports from the other side that the building of big ships is likely to halt for a while. The Vaterland is 950 feet long, and it is freely predicted that ten years will elapse before the 1,000-foot ship is a reality.

There has been a marvellous development in the last quarter of a century. From the City of Paris, of 10,600 tons, to the Vaterland, of 58,000 tons, the jump is almost unbelievable. A continued progress at the same pace is, of course, impossible. There are nine ships now built or building to rank with the Vaterland, and the capacity of each is so enormous as to care for a large increase in traffic. It is entirely probable, therefore, that we shall have to wait a number of years for the long expected 1,000-foot craft.

In the mean time the Port of New York must be sure that it is offering safe and convenient facilities to the great vessels now on the seas or laid down in yards. The case is one for careful foresight and liberal planning.

Mr. McAdoo's Subway Demands.

Mr. McAdoo's remarkable demands in compensation for an easement for new subway construction under the Postoffice Building are a grave injustice to this city. They compel the payment of \$1,000,000 for the easement, when the damage, according to the experts retained by the Public Service Commission, would be nominal; or they necessitate the laying out of a new route, with all the attendant expense, inconvenience and delay.

Doubtless Mr. McAdoo knows why he is doing this. Apparently the Public Service Commission does not understand his motives; certainly the public does not. All the public knows is that it is to be victimized one way or the other, in the payment which the Secretary of the Treasury demands, or in months' delay in subway construction and perpetual inconvenience in operation if the subway be built along the route proposed to avoid running under the postoffice.

The Blood of the Militants.

We sincerely hope that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle permitted his irritation to warp his judgment when he expressed the fear that lynchings might result from further suffragette outrages. That, indeed, would prove the charge that John Bull, stolid, slow moving, sensible, had yielded to hysteria, and more than anything else it would convict him of helplessness in the face of what can hardly be considered a grave crisis, however provoking a situation.

To have your masterpieces of art ruined, to have your windows smashed and your buildings burned, to have your ministers assaulted and your king insulted are not occurrences calculated to promote a philosophical calm under the best of circumstances, but particularly when the perpetrators elude the punishment you are so able and willing to mete out through such feminine subterfuges as hunger strikes and the exhibition of defenceless frailty. It is absurd to suggest that a nation which shrinks from seeing its women law breakers die in jail should string them up at lampposts.

Appointments of Doubtful Merit.

Announcing the appointment of ten deputies, the Workmen's Compensation Commission says: "The board has sought to make its selections without regard to politics, but with an eye single to get the fittest men possible." It is possible that this object has been attained, but it is certain that the selection was not made without political influence bearing an important part. Prominent among the appointees are George W. Batten, a Democratic State Committeeman and chronic officeholder; Patrick A. Whitney, former Correction Commissioner of this city, organization Democrat; Thomas J. Brennan, a McCooney Democrat, of Brooklyn, formerly secretary of the Board of Assessors, who lost his job when Mayor Mitchel took office.

Most of the other appointees are organized labor leaders. Of the ten, the only man generally known to have any extensive knowledge of workmen's compensation in theory or operation is Cyrus W. Phillips, a Republican Assemblyman, who has specialized on the subject in his legislative career. These appointees may do good work. But the history of the Labor Department in recent years, which has been loaded with political hangers-on and labor union graduates with more or less political influence, does not yield a great deal of hope. It would be singularly unfortunate if the application of the compensation law, the most liberal in the country, should be handicapped by the appointment of improper men to enforce it.

Sir Thomas Lipton's "Nautical Crime."

The experts who have had a look at Shamrock IV are one in their astonishment. The great Nicholson, building under a rule expressly designed to penalize freaks, has turned out one of the most extraordinary freaks among sizable yachts. So run all the stories out of Gosport. She is a scow, a skimming dish, a gravy boat. Her bows are blunt, her stern chopped off, her sides roll in. A freak racing machine, if there ever was one, according to these amazed reports.

Further details may modify this description somewhat. But there seems no doubt that Nicholson has elected to take a big hazard in designing his craft and has sought speed at great cost in time allowance and beauty of line. This is a pity from one point of view, for it was hoped that good seaworthy craft would compete under the new rule. But rules are made to be evaded after all, as plenty of our designers are in the habit of demonstrating, year after year. And no one need imagine that Designer Nicholson has built regardless of the penalties in sight. An able and imaginative creator, he has done the bold thing, and can be counted on to give our best ship a hard race.

Our three defenders are far from freakish. Yet they are of widely varying types, proving for the thousandth time how eternally inexact a science is the technique of yacht designing. The Herreshoff craft is, for once, least engaging to the eye, having a stubby look aft, which somewhat suggests the description of the new Shamrock. The mahogany Defiance is, perhaps, most striking, with her unbelievably tall and narrow rig. To the Gardner craft, the Vanitie, of unpainted bronze hull, must undoubtedly be awarded the palm for complete yachtlike grace. All will have their chance to prove their looks by their actions and to show whether an Englishman can drive a scow through an American rule on the home waters.

For yachtsmen the most important fact is that the best summer of yacht racing in the history of the sport is in the offing.

The Conning Tower

CONCERNING COLLABORATION

Return Engagement of the Triple Alliance, J. O. L., Chioct and Sal.

"That is a bright little thought!"
"Yes? Let us work it together."
"This is the theme we have sought."
"How can you rhyme in this weather?"

"Yes, let us work it together."
"Each one contribute a line."
"How can you rhyme in this weather?"
"There, I have given you mine."

"Each one contribute a line."
"This is the best I can put in."
"There, I have given you mine."
"Now you are putting your foot in!"

"This is the best I can put in."
"We'll get across with that shot."
"Now you are putting your foot in!"
"Strike while the weather is hot."

"We'll get across with that shot."
"Why should we work when it's torrid?"
"Strike while the weather is hot!"
[Business of mopping the forehead.]

"Why should we work when it's torrid?"
"This is the theme we have sought."
[Business of mopping the forehead.]
"That is a bright little thought!"

If you want to leave the Is-It-Hot-Enough-for-You? pest—and he hasn't been parographed out of existence yet—flat, answer, in a word, No. It closes the argument and takes you out in the open air.

Tip to any vacuum cleaner concern: You should be able to sell a lot of machines to owners of apartment-houses in the district bounded by Broadway, West 113th Street, Riverside Drive and West 115th Street. In that vicinage from 6:45 a. m. until dark 300,000 rugs are beaten daily. Beaten noisily, too.

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPYS.

May 28—The hottest day this year and I did stop at home all the morning, reading and what not. To the office for a space and then to the ball park and saw a dull game, but W. Trumbull did take me home in his petrol-wagon, which I enjoyed. We did have for dinner this evening the tenderest duck ever I tasted, and Olive did concoct a dessert, which she called Banana Pluff, and it was not bad, neither. I had thought it was against the law to cook bananas anywhere save on a dining-car. For always they do have banana fritters there, and nowhere else. At my office all the evening, and found it cooler there than in most places. But the composing-room was hotter than Gehenna itself.

27—Up, and to the markets, where I bought all the provisions for this day and the next and in 2 minutes or less, too. Yet women do spend all the morning at it, which I cannot understand. To luncheon, and thereafter did play at Kelly pool until five, as I could not go forth in the great storm which did plunge the town in darkness. Home upon an omnibus, and methought how fresh and clean the town looked after the rain. And I was minded to make a comment to that effect, but forbore, thinking, Haply this hath occurred to others before me. At the office until eleven, when to an apothecary's for a beaker of milk, and so home and to-bed.

Years ago we quoted examples of phony definition—of specious sentences that sounded well enough until you put them into a crucible. What does Munsey's mean, frexamp, by "Literature at its best is life as we understand it?"

THE MAD, MAD WAGS, WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

Sir: Something appeared in the bathingsuit column of your paper the other day, which has caused me many sleepless nights. It described the new satin suits as "most interesting when wet." Do they mean what I mean? Anyway, it has so affected my poor sister's brain that she threatens to get one of said suits and even tries to lure me into it. But I say to her, I say—I'll stick to mohair, dearie, and let satin stick to you. Blossom.

Mrs. Lawrence Swift, who lost in the golf tournament yesterday, may be remembered as she that was Miss Elizabeth Hurry. Her wedding caused considerable stir in monicker circles.

"Huerta May Abdicate" headlines the Post. And, as Rung Lardner says, San Francisco Bay may be made of grape juice.

DON'T FORGET TO ENDORSE IT.
Sir: Adams Express Company proffers eludes us as Ham & Harduff on a 74-cent check. If we mail you the check, shall we get in?

THE HORN & HARDART COMPANY.

Perhaps, as The Colonel says, a man can't be in forty places at once. If a man could, though, who do you think that man would be? Again our hero.

NEW-FASHIONED THOUGHTS ON O. P. THEMES.

By SOL.

The Grampian Hills—how well their sight recalls
The name of Norval ringing through the halls
Of the old schoolhouse on that awful day
When declamation held its dreaded sway!

Well, Sir A. Conan Doyle is in New York. How did we know? We read it in the papers last evening. You know our methods, Watson; the thing is elementary, elementary.

Higher geography from the Satevepost: "Negales, the Arizona town that is partly in this country and partly in Mexico."

Next Sunday's headline: Giants Lead League. 'Twas a grand day for them when we bet on Pittsburgh.

"There's one thing I don't like about lastlining," writes Edar, coaxingly.

Consider the question put. What don't you like about it?

"Everybody looks down on his stuff."

F. P. A.

WAITING FOR THE BOOT.



THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

THE WOMEN OF COLORADO

What They Did and What They Did Not Do.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Annie Riley Hale, Alice Edith Abell, Everett P. Wheeler, et al., see in the labor war in Colorado a strong argument against woman suffrage. Nothing happens under the heavens that is not an indisputable argument against woman suffrage, according to these students of the universe, and the bearing they believe this question has on nature's laws, and every other law, human or divine.

Following their reasoning, conditions in Colorado afford a far stronger argument against man suffrage, for the men were entrusted with the offices and many betrayed the trust; following their premises further, conditions in that commonwealth are an indictment of popular government; they are even an indictment of the Christian religion itself, which has made democratic or representative government possible. But in the face of these conditions and admissions, is any person brave enough to suggest disfranchising the men of Colorado? Who has anything better to offer than government of, for and by the people, even though that form of government seems to have failed lamentably in Las Animas and Huerfano counties? Who can afford to steel his or her heart against the Sermon on the Mount, though pharisees and hypocrites profess Christianity and though prominent Christians are principals in the labor war?

From anything we have been able to learn so far the women of Colorado do not stand convicted of failure in the use of the franchise. The laws of that state are among the most humane and advanced to be found on any statute books in the world. Even the "demands" over which the strikers are conducting a little private war called a strike, are incorporated in the law of the land. The trouble has arisen because certain privileged individuals decided to flout the law, and the tools they selected to help them were men, not women. There are no women in the Legislature from either of the counties in revolt. No woman holds the office of District Attorney or any of the Judgeships. No woman is numbered among the sheriffs and marshals energetic in the service of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company; no woman rushed to enlist, even at \$10 a day, with the thugs and sharpshooters masquerading as militia, and remember that it was men, not women, who fired the shots at Ludlow in which two women and eleven children were roasted to death.

SARA M'PIKE.
New York, May 26, 1914.

QUESTIONS IN CHURCH

Tremendous Jars Are Prescribed for the Institution.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: I think your correspondent in Sunday's Tribune was wrong in thinking the church was not a place where questions could be asked. On the contrary, there is no place where questions are more in order than in churches. The people have a right to inquire about what is being done and what is being left undone in these institutions, for they are exempt from taxation, and we have to help pay for them by additions to our own taxes to cover the deficit.

The church needs a tremendous jar to arouse it from the condition to which it has sunk to-day. A few more jars and it may possibly sit up and take notice of things going on around and inside of it. I am not surprised that the ushers and other members of the Rockefeller church fought so savagely a few Sundays ago when they heard a human voice speaking a human message to them. It must have startled them out of their senses. It is very hard on rich men, I admit, to have this until now their only retreat invaded by men with unpleasant and embarrassing questions, and still harder is it on the ministers whose efforts to make the church a haven of happiness and forgiveness for these men are interfered with; but the world is moving on, and when a church stands prominently in the way of progress and stops the procession going forward it is bound to feel the impact of the onward marchers. The church will have to change their inter-

ANTI-ROOSEVELT

This Republican Declares That the Colonel Must Be Eliminated.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: All truly Republican papers should come forward at once and denounce all talk of the possibility of the Republican party supporting Roosevelt for the Presidency in 1916. If there is to be a union of the Republican and Progressive parties it must be entered into only upon the condition that Roosevelt is to be absolutely eliminated as a possible candidate.

The assumption that boss rule alone was the cause of the defeat of the Republican party in 1912 is entirely unwarranted. The 3,000,000 men who remained true to their party in 1912 must be reckoned with, and it is ridiculous to suppose that they are going to allow the party which they stood by in the time of its greatest trouble to be now turned over to its bitterest foe.

Republicans will never again stand for Roosevelt tyranny, and the "third term," "recall" and other anti-Republican issues are as vital to-day and will be as vital in 1916 as they were two years ago.

THEODORE NELSON.
Brooklyn, May 26, 1914.

LET THE COUNTRY HAVE A REST

The Plea for Dropping the Anti-Trust Bills Is Cheered.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: "Drop the anti-trust bills and let the country have a rest."

Under the above heading your editorial of May 25 is timely, suggestive and to the point.

If there is one thing that the country needs at the present time more than any other, it is a rest and a cessation of so-called official regulation of the business affairs.

While the entire article is one that cannot fail of the approval of every thoughtful, careful business man, the closing paragraph strikes the keynote and suggests the desired climax, if only it could be accomplished.

A TRIBUNE READER.
(From its beginning.)
New York, May 26, 1914.

A CRITIC OF THE CHURCHES

The New Testament Gives Him Basis for Attack.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Will you kindly permit me a few words in reply to Eleanor H. Sefton's answer to my letter of the 23d, for the question seems to me of the utmost importance, and she quite fails to grasp the significance of it.

For example, she characterizes Bouck White as "a fanatical person," etc., utterly overlooking the fact that it is very evident, from the most superficial reading of the New Testament, that this is exactly the way in which the chief priests and pharisees regarded Christ, and, of course, they were the church going people of those times. Mind you, I am not defending White, but I think, for the honor of Christianity, this matter should be taken up.

Again, she says that every Christian sect would welcome Him as He should be welcomed, if He were reincarnated. This is very shallow; of course they would, if His coming were duly advertised, which she seems to infer, although I doubt that His welcome would outlast a renewal of His denunciation of the scribes and pharisees and the rich men. But how would it be if He did appear as he undoubtedly appeared in the temples and to the peoples of his day; an ordinary workman, a carpenter, the leader of a little band of fishermen, a "stirrer up of the people," preaching a strange doctrine most unsavory to those in authority? How about it, then? That's the question the Church must answer, or be disgraced in the eyes of thinking people.

Moreover, the lady says that Christ would never have done anything similar to the action of Bouck White. That may be true, but it is impossible for a moment to think of the Christ who said "Suffer little children to come unto me" regarding with complacency the policy of His Church being controlled by people who have looked with indifference upon the slaughter of little children, which they by a word could have prevented, or by men who have wantonly wrecked great railroad systems to the irreparable loss of the traditional widows and orphans. To think this is exactly the blasphemy with which the Church is charged. It is useless for the Church, ostrich-like, to endeavor to evade this question, for people everywhere are asking. As the churches are exempt from taxation, and we all therefore have to assume more or less the burden of their maintenance, we think we have a right to ask. In other words, it seems to me that Bouck White is not so much on trial as the churches themselves.

GEORGE C. WILSON.
New York, May 27, 1914.

CHRISTIANITY SUFFICIENT

Social Service Would Be the Negation of Its Principles.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: So many men, among whom is your correspondent, E. W. Van Valkenburgh, are at work building "the religion of the future," that I no longer wonder at the despair in which our Protestant churches find themselves. Christianity must be chucked overboard and in its place we must substitute social service. Instead of having a peaceful sanctuary where humans may go to commune in thought and prayer and song services to the Almighty Mr. V. V. would substitute the gymnasium, swimming pools and playgrounds; he would turn religion into play and make of Christianity a second-hand matter to salvation.

But the question naturally arises: Is the Church to abandon the story of the life of Christ, His teachings and sufferings, the most solemn and awful mysteries of the Christian religion, for philanthropic activities? Are the questions of wages and tenements, sanitary conditions and social uplift to become dogmas? Are these questions to supplant faith? Is humanitarianism to take the place of creed? Those who favor this latest religious panacea will answer affirmatively, but they forget that these questions are simply a small part of the Christian religion.

The growth of syndicalism and of anti-militarism, the open dissemination of doctrines fatal alike to the State, to private property and to the family, the constant recurrence of formidable strikes, the increasing audacity of the criminal classes, the impunity with which some of their most daring feasts have been performed, the insistence of the Protestant Church to meddle in the affairs of State, the political sermons which she permits her ministers to preach and to her detriment, the many sham reforms and sham reformers she embraces, the spread of financial and political corruption, the decrease in the birth rate and the rise in the divorce rate, the general relaxation of the old moral standards in private life as in public, and the decay of the sanction which guarded them, have undoubtedly led many to reflect whether negation can constitute the sure and stable foundation for the life of a great people.

And social service would be the negation of Christianity.

Ever since the beginning of time humanity has been looking for the dawn of the millennium, the age of golden abundance, when poverty and other social ills will be unknown. But the millennium has not yet set in, and it never will. The mirage in the desert is ever equidistant. It is an illusion and nothing more. Men may organize fanciful schemes for bettering mankind; but at the end they will be no better off than they were at the beginning.

J. ALEX. ROLLINSON.
Manassas, Va., May 27, 1914.